

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 133642

66

ORIGIN ITFE-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 R

66619

DRAFTED BY IATF EPETERSON

APPROVED BY IATF JVTAF

S/S-O MTANNER

----- 093802

R 072138Z JUN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS STATE 133642

FOLLOWING REPEAT INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE FT CHAFFEE ARK R 060845Z
ACTION SECSTATE

QUOTE

UNCLAS

FOR IATF CHAIRMAN AND WILSON

SUBJECT: ESTABLISHMENT OF UNHCR AT FT CHAFFEE

TAGS: S/REF

WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL OPPORTUNITIES TO REPORT IN TELCONS AND TO IATF VISITORS ON QUICK ESTABLISHMENT OF UNHCR OFFICE HERE BEGINNING WITH ARRIVAL OF DAVID ARNOLD, UNHCR REP LATE THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 29 AND ITS SMOOTH BUILD-UP AND OPERATION SINCE THAT TIME END WISH TO CONFIRM AND RECORD THAT NOW. ELL SCC PRE-PLANNING WAS PREDICATED ON PRINCIPLE OF UNHCR'S SEPARATENESS FROM AND INDEPENDENCE OF USG ON THE ONE HAND AND OF USG RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE REQUESTED ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT ONLY REPEAT ONLY ON THE OTHER. ACCORDINGLY, WE HAD IN READINESS FOR ARNOLD'S ARRIVAL A SEPARATE BUILDING, COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT EXCLUSIVELY DEVOTED TO UNHNR-DIRECTED STAFF COMPOSED OF ARNOLD; SPECIAL RED CROSS WORKERS SENONDED TO HIM UNDER ARRANGEMENTS WORKED OUT BETWEEN UNHCR AND RED CROSS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS; AND VIETNAMESE REFUGEE INTERPRETERS/TRANSLATORS. THIS BUILDING WAS CHOSEN AT A SITE FAR DISTANT FROM FACILITIES USED BY RED CROSS PERSONNEL PROVIDING REGULAR SERVICES FOR REFUGEES. UNHCR ARNOLD AND ENSO BIGANNATI OF

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 133642

RED CROSS NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS (WHO ARRIVED WITH ARNOLD TO ASSIST

HIM IN INSTRUCTING SPECIAL RED CROSS STAFF IN INTERVIEW TECHNIQUE AND USE OF THE SNHCR QUESTIONNAIRE) HAVE BOTH EXPRESSED FULL SATISFACTION WITH THESE FACILITIES AND USG SUPPORT WHEN REQUESTED.

WE HAD ALSO MADE TENTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE UNHCR REP AND BIGANNATI TO MEET PRIVATELY IN CLOSED THEATER FRIDAY MORNINO, MAY 30, WITH THOSE REFUGEES WHO HAD UP TO THEN MADE KNOWN TO SCC STAFF THEIR INTEREST IN RETURNING OT VIETNAM AS ZELL AS ARRANGEMENTS FOR ARNOLD TO MEET WITH PRESS BEFORE AND AFTER THAT PRIVATE SESSION. ARNOLD RATIFIED THOSE ARRANGEMENTS WITH ONE EXECPTION, REQUESTING SPECIFICALLY THAT MACDONALD ATTEND UNHCR'S FIRST MEETING WITH PETITIONERS BECAUSE HE ANTICIPATED QUESTIONS OF USG POLICY MIGHT BE ASKED BY PETITIONERS. MACDONALD AGREED, ATTENDED AND ANSWERED SUCH QUESTIONS WHICH DID IN FACT ARISE.

OVER WEEKEND, ARNOLD AND BIGANNATI PREHARED FOR INTERVIEWS SCHEDULED TO BEGINE ON MONDAY JUNE 2. BI-LINGUIST DONALD STADER OF SCC STAFFWAS LOANED TO UNHCR REP AT HIS REQUEST TO ASSIST IN VERIFYING ENGLISH

COMPETENCE OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEE VOLUNTEERS SELECTED BY UNHCR TO SERVE AS TRANSLATORS/INTERPRETORS. OTHER SCC STAFF PROVIDED VARIOUS ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SUCH AS DUPLICATION OF QUESTIONNAI-RE, ETC. ALSO OVER WEEKEND, REFUGEES INTERESTED IN RETURNING TO VIETNAM BEGAN APPROACHING UNCHR DIRECTLY RATHER THAN THROUGH SCC STAFF, AS COUNSELLED BY UNHCR ARNOLD IN THEATER MEETING FRIDAY, MAY 30. THIS CHANGE WAS CONFIRMED IN REVISION OF DAILY NOTICE IN VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE NEWSPAPER WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4.

ON JUNE 2, UNHCR INTERVIEWING COMMENCED AND HAS CONTINUED AS REPORTED IN OUR SITREPS, AND DONALD STADER HAS BEEN RETURNED TO HIS SCC STAFF DUTIES.

WIH CHANGE TO CHANNEL PETITIONERS DIRECTLY TO UNHCR AND IN LIGHT OUR DISCUSSIONS WITH WISNER AND TEAM JUNE 3 AND 4, WE ARE DISCONTINUING OUR DAILY REPORTING (PREVIOUSLY REQUIRED BY REFTEL: STATE 112244) OF NAMES OF REFUGEES SEEKING REPATRIATION. BEGINNING WITH SITREP FOR JUNE 5, WE ARE TRANSMITTING TO IATF ONLY NUMBERS OF REFUGEES REQUESTING INTERVIEWS WITH UNHCR REP (SITREP PARA 3-C) AND NUMBERS OF COMPLETED UNHCR APPLICATIONS (SITREP PARA 3-D). WE RECEIVE THESE NUMBERS FROM UNHCR.

WE ARE IMPRESSED WITH THE SMCOTHNESS AND QUIET EFFECTIVENES OF THE UNHCR OPERATION AND ARE WELL SATISFIED THAT THE POSTURE STRUCK BETWEEN UNHCR AND USG HERE IS PROPER, AND WELL UNDERSTOOD, BY UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 133642

VIETNAMESE, UNHCR AND US STAFF HERE. YOU MAY WISH TO REPEAT FOREGOING TO US MISSION GENEVA FOR THEIR INFORMATION AND, IF YOU DEEM IT, USE WITH UNHCR THERE. WE UNDERSTAND UNHCR REP HAS SENT COMPARABLE ACCOUNT TO HIS HEADUUARTERS. UNQUOTE KISSINGER

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, ESTABLISHMENT O OFFICES, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE133642
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750200-0128
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750670/aaaaclnr.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN ITFE
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 NHCR REP (SITREP PARA 3-AND
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <03 FEB 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ESTABLISHMENT OF UNHCR AT FT CHAFFEE TAGS: S/REF
TAGS: SREF, UNHCR
To: GENEVA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006